IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO REGIONAL)
COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS PENSION)
FUND, CHICAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL)
OF CARPENTERS WELFARE FUND, and) CASE NO.
CHICAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS APPRENTICE & TRAINEE PROGRAM FUND, Plaintiffs,) FILED: AUGUST 07, 2008) 08CV4473) JUDGE CASTILLO
VS.) MAGISTRATE JUDGE KEYS
SCF COMMERCIAL FLOORING, INC.,)) DAJ
Defendants.)

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs, TRUSTEES of the CHICAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL OF

CARPENTERS PENSION FUND, et al., by their attorney, Amy Elizabeth Paluch Epton, complain
of the Defendant, SCF COMMERCIAL FLOORING, INC., as follows:

- 1. This action arises under Section 502 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA") and Section 301 of the Taft-Hartley Act. (29 U.S.C. §§1132 and 185). Jurisdiction is founded on the existence of questions arising there under.
- 2. The CHICAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS PENSION

 FUND, the CHICAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS WELFARE FUND and
 the CHICAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS APPRENTICE AND TRAINEE

 PROGRAM ("Trust Funds") receive contributions from numerous employers pursuant
 to Collective Bargaining Agreements between the employers and the CHICAGO

 REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS, successor of the CHICAGO & NORTHEAST
 ILLINOIS DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS, ("Union"), and therefore, are

multiemployer plans. (29 U.S.C. §1002). The Trust Funds are administered at 12 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois and venue is proper in the Northern District of Illinois.

- 3. The Defendant is an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce which entered into Agreements which require Defendant to pay fringe benefit contributions to the Trust Funds.
- 4. Pursuant to the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreements, the Defendant is required to make contributions to the Trust Funds for each hour worked by its carpenter employees at the rate and in the manner specified in the Collective Bargaining Agreements and Trust Agreements. In addition, the Defendant is required to make contributions to the Trust Funds measured by the hours worked by subcontractors that are not signatory to a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Union.
- 5. The Defendant must submit monthly reports listing the hours worked by its carpenter employees and to make concurrent payment of contributions to the Trust Funds based upon the hours worked by its carpenter employees.
- 6. The Plaintiffs audited a portion of the books and records of the Defendant to verify that all contributions were submitted. The Defendant failed to produce all the books, records and information required to complete the audit. The preliminary audit revealed that the Defendant breached the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement by underpaying contributions that are owed to the Trust Funds based upon the hours worked by employees and/or measured by the hours worked by subcontractors during the period of January 2006 through June 2007. The contributions owed to the Trust Funds as a consequence of this breach are \$16,861.98.
- 7. Delinquent employers are required to pay, in addition to the amounts determined to be due, liquidated damages, interest, reasonable attorney fees, court costs, audit fees and other

reasonable costs incurred in the collection process.

- 8. Plaintiffs have complied with all conditions precedent in bringing this suit.
- 9. Plaintiffs have been required to employ the undersigned attorneys to collect the monies that may be found to be due and owing from Defendant.
- 10. Defendant is obligated to pay the attorney fees and court costs incurred by the Plaintiffs pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2)(D).
- 11. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2)(B), the Plaintiffs are entitled to interest on any monies that may be found to be due and owing from the Defendant.
- 12. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2)(C), Plaintiffs are entitled to an amount equal to the greater of:
 - a) double interest on the unpaid contributions; or
 - b) interest plus liquidated damages provided for under the Trust

 Agreements not in excess of 20% of amount that is due.
- 13. Pursuant to the Trust Agreements, Plaintiffs are entitled to liquidated damages at the rate of 1.5% compounded monthly.

COUNT I Preliminary Audit Delinquency

- 14. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-13 as if fully set forth herein.
- 15. Defendant owes \$16,861.98 in contributions.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray:

- a) That the Defendant be ordered to pay contributions in the amount of \$16,861.98 for the months January 2006 through June 2007.
- b) That the Defendant be ordered to pay liquidated damages pursuant to the Trust Agreements.
- c) That the Defendant be ordered to pay interest on the amount that is due pursuant to

- 29 U.S.C. §1132 (g)(2)(B).
- d) That the Defendant be ordered to pay interest or liquidated damages on the amount that is due pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132 (g)(2)(C).
- e) That the Defendant be ordered to pay the reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred by the Plaintiffs pursuant to the Trust Agreements and 29 U.S.C. §1132 (g)(2)(D).
- f) That Plaintiffs have such other and further relief as by the Court may be deemed just and equitable all at the Defendant's costs pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2)(E).

COUNT II Audit Refusal

- 16. Plaintiffs incorporate paragraphs 1-15 as if fully set forth herein.
- 17. Defendant has refused to produce the books, records and information required to complete the audit.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray:

- a) That the Defendant be ordered to produce all books, records and information to complete the audit as requested by the Plaintiffs.
- b) That the Plaintiff be allowed to submit an estimate of the amount of contributions due should the Defendant fail to submit to the audit.
- c). That the Defendant be ordered to pay liquidated damages pursuant to the Trust Agreements.
- d) That the Defendant be ordered to pay interest on the amount that is due pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132 (g)(2)(B).
- e) That the Defendant be ordered to pay interest or liquidated damages on the amount that is due pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132 (g)(2)(C).
- f) That the Defendant be ordered to pay the reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred by the Plaintiffs pursuant to the Trust Agreements and 29 U.S.C. §1132 (g)(2)(D).
- g) That Plaintiffs have such other and further relief as by the Court may be deemed just and equitable all at the Defendant's costs pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132(g)(2)(E).

By: <u>/s/ Amy Elizabeth Paluch Epton</u>
One of the attorneys for Plaintiffs

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